

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is offering approximately **56.5** acres of cropland in Carroll County by lease through competitive sealed bids for hay farming purposes for the five year term beginning April 1, 2022. Prospective bidders may contact Patapsco Valley State Park, 8020 Baltimore National Pike Ellicott City MD 21043 / 410-461-5005 to obtain a bid package and further information. Bids are due no later than 10:00 am on **Wednesday, March 30th, 2022**. Minority Businesses are encouraged to participate.

LEASE BID PROPOSAL

Area: Patapsco Valley State Park
410-461-5005
Joe Vogelpohl, Assistant Park Manager

Property: 56.5 acres of cropland for hay farming purposes only – no till
Hay farming only
Former Fenwick/ Cauthorn

See attached maps for actual locations of each separate field offered for lease.
fields are **near** 7901 Henryton Rd, Marriottsville MD 21104 & 7557
Gorsuch Switch rd, Eldersburg MD 21784

Bidder: I, _____, as President or authorized representative
of _____ hereby submit the following:
The amount of _____ Dollars
(\$ _____) per acre, to total the amount of _____
_____ Dollars (\$ _____)
lump sum for the term of five (5) year to be paid in annual installments of
_____ Dollars (\$ _____) on or before the first day
of January of each year of the term of the lease beginning April 1st, 2022
and ending March 31st, 2027.

Signature of Bidder: _____

Title of Bidder: _____

Full Corporate _____

Bidder Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please check your bid to ensure that all blanks have been completed. Failure to provide all required information may result in the rejection of your bid. The successful bidder must comply with all Federal, State, and/or Local laws in leasing the subject property. The successful bidder will be required to sign a Cropland Lease Agreement. A sample copy of the document is attached. The successful bidder will be required to comply with certain special conditions as set forth on the attached sheet to include a minimum acceptable bid amount. Minority businesses are encouraged to participate.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDER NEED NOT BE PRESENT AT THE BID OPENING

Office Use Only – do not complete below:

Bidder Notified: _____ Bidder Accepted: _____
Verified: _____

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”) is offering approximately 56.5 acres of cropland for hay farming purposes only at the Patapsco Valley State Park off Henryton Rd and Gorsuch Switch Rd in Carroll County. The successful bidder will be responsible for the following special conditions:

Bidding and Qualifications:

- The minimum acceptable bid is Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per acre per year.
- Bidder must have a minimum of five (5) years experience managing a commercial hay operation and submit with bid a list of equipment for use in operation to the Landlord’s satisfaction. Bidder also must submit with bid a minimum of two (2) professional references.

Required Farming Practices, Operations, and Use of Leased Premises:

- No tilling or disturbance of soil is allowable. Reseeding must be through no-till methods. Leasee shall, consistent with a Conservation Plan as prepared by the Howard County Soil Conservation District, utilize acceptable “no-till” or other methods to manage the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface year-round, while limiting soil disturbance. No-till refers to planting crops into a narrow slot or opening in the soil created by coulters, row-openers, or other devices for the purpose of inserting seed or transplants. This practice shall be applied to: 1) reduce erosion / loss of soil; and 2) improve soil organic matter.
- A Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) must be submitted on an annual basis by *March 1st* of each year – see Section 11 of the Cropland Lease Agreement. *Tenant must comply fully with NMP.* Soil fertility levels must be maintained at nutrient levels/ph at or above current levels as shown on the soil fertility report. Plans for nutrient management shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Persons who review or approve plans for nutrient management shall be certified through the Maryland Department of Agriculture: Nutrient Management Certification Program (Maryland Nutrient Management Regulations, COMAR 15.20.04 - Nutrient Management Certification and Licensing.). Plans for nutrient management that are elements of a more comprehensive conservation plan shall

recognize other requirements of the conservation plan and be compatible with its other requirements. Manure and commercial fertilizers are recommended. Proposals to apply mushroom compost (SMS) or other means to build soil fertility through the incorporation of organic content will be considered for suitability on a case-by case basis. *It is the responsibility of the Lessee to conduct end-of-contract soil sampling and provide Landlord a soil fertility report by September 1st of the final year of the contract term.*

- Lessee shall be responsible for noxious weed control on all leased acres and file a timely plan of compliance with the Maryland Department of Agriculture by December 31st of each year of the lease term, with a copy to Landlord (see section 8.e. of the Cropland Lease Agreement). Lessee shall mow to the field edge to preserve acreage and further reduce noxious weed pressure. Tenant must maintain all diversion berms and waterways by mowing at least once per year, or as directed by Landlord.
- A complete list of chemicals and additives proposed to be applied to the property, and an accompanying public notification plan, must be submitted to the Landlord annually in writing for approval, prior to any and all field applications. All proposed applications must be performed in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and by a certified applicator.
- A reasonably consistent mowing schedule shall be maintained from year to year (begin mowing the same area first, second, third, and so on each year). Lessee must maintain all diversion berms and waterways by mowing at least once per year, or as directed by Landlord. To the extent practicable, efforts shall be made to minimize disturbance to wildlife inhabiting hay fields by mowing slowly, looking ahead, and using a flushing bar. Operators shall mow from the center of the field and cut towards the edges, to maximize the opportunity for wildlife to flee ahead of the equipment.
- A minimum of one (1) cutting must be completed throughout the leased property by August 15th of each year of the term of the lease. All cutting activity must cease by November 1st of each year.
- Work may only be performed between dawn and dusk. No equipment or hay products may be stored outside of leased hay areas beyond the hay season.

Commencement, DNR Use, Liability, and Insurance:

Leasee must maintain Liability Insurance at all times.

DNR retains the right to use the entire leased premises for public purposes such as, but not limited to, public hunting, trail use, field events, etc.

DNR reserves the right to convert additional acreage deemed necessary for wildlife protection, forestry, agricultural research, erosion control, or other public use purpose.

DNR reserves the right to visually inspect bidders' equipment to ensure ability to fulfill conditions of awarded contract.

See additional terms and conditions set forth in the cropland lease agreement and outbuilding lease agreement attached with this package.



Cauthorn
#2

36.5 +/-
acres



Fenwick

20 +/- acres

